

ITEM 7A

Public Safety Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
June 10, 2024



The audio file for this meeting can be found at: <http://www.cvag.org/audio.htm>

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order by Chair Waymond Fermon, City of Indio, at 9:02 a.m. at the CVAG Conference Room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, in the City of Palm Desert. Videoconferencing was available from the City of Riverside.
2. **ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

**Members Present**

City of Blythe	Vice Mayor Johnny Rodriguez
City of Cathedral City	Councilmember Raymond Gregory, <i>Vice Chair</i>
City of Desert Hot Springs	Councilmember Roger Nuñez
City of Indian Wells	Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Whitman
City of Indio	Councilmember Waymond Fermon, <i>Chair</i>
City of La Quinta	Councilmember John Peña
City of Palm Desert	Mayor Karina Quintanilla
City of Palm Springs	Councilmember Grace Garner
City of Rancho Mirage	Councilmember Meg Marker
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	Tribal Vice Chair Joseph Mirelez

**Ex-Officio Members Present**

California Highway Patrol	Captain David Efferson/Sergeant Eric Pena
Cathedral City Police	Commander Rick Sanchez
Indio Police Department	Lieutenant Erik Longoria
District Attorney's Office	Assistant DA Rodney Tethal
Riverside County Fire	Deputy Chief Robert Fish

**Members & Ex-Officios Not Present**

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Tribal Councilmember John Preckwinkle III
City of Coachella	Councilmember Frank Figueroa
County of Riverside	Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Emergency Services Manager Robert Bradbury
California Highway Patrol	Commander Dennis Woodbury
Cathedral City Fire	Fire Chief Michael Contreras
Desert Hot Springs Police	Chief of Police Jim Henson
Palm Desert Sheriff's Substation	Dean Agnoletto, Captain
Palm Springs Fire	Fire Chief Paul Alvarado
Palm Springs Police	Chief Andrew Mills
Riverside County Probation	Chief Probation Officer Ron Miller
Riverside County Sheriff's Department	Sheriff Chad Bianco
Thermal Sheriff Station	Captain Michael Bianco
U.S. Customs and Border Patrol	Assistant Chief Patrol Agent David Kim

### **3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Indio Police Department's Lieutenant Erik Longoria led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

None

### **5. CHAIR / COMMITTEE MEMBER/CVAG STAFF COMMENTS**

Chief Operating Officer Erica Felci welcomed all members to the meeting and reminded committee members to register for the General Assembly being held on June 24 in the City of Desert Hot Springs.

Councilmember Meg Marker from the City of Rancho Mirage announced Rancho Mirage passed an ordinance at their June 6 meeting that makes it illegal to possess a catalytic converter if it is not connected to a vehicle and announced it is a "one and done" ordinance.

City of Palm Desert Mayor Karina Quintanilla thanked all public safety members involved in graduation traffic coordination at Palm Desert High School for a smooth in and out streamline process after the ceremony.

Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Whitman from the City of Indian Wells reported the Riverside County Sheriff's Department recently held a community wide speed and noise enforcement and 100 people were cited/and or arrested.

Chair Fermon, Councilmember from the City of Indio, said the City of Indio also adopted a catalytic converter ordinance. Chair Fermon discussed the need to address graffiti issue at the interchanges and along the CV Link route.

Vice Chair John Peña, Mayor Pro Tem from the City of La Quinta, announced that the Homelessness Committee will be meeting at the Palm Springs Navigation Center on Wednesday, June 12 and will be taking a tour of the active construction site and invited members of the Public Safety Committee to join the tour.

### **6. EX-OFFICIO COMMENTS**

Lt. Longoria introduced himself to the Committee as a first-time attendee to the committee meeting.

Cathedral City Police Commander Rick Sanchez reports the City of Cathedral City also has a catalytic converter ordinance in place. Commander Sanchez reports if graffiti is seen in their city, residents can use the "MyCathedralCity" app to report the issue and public works will address it within 24 hours.

### **7. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. Approve the minutes from the May 13, 2024 meeting of the Public Safety Committee**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER GARNER AND SECONDED BY MAYOR QUINTANILLA TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR.**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 10 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT.**

<b>Councilmember John Preckwinkle</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Raymond Gregory</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Frank Figueroa</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Councilmember Roger Nuñez</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Whitman</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Waymond Fermon</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember John Peña</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Mayor Karina Quintanilla</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Grace Garner</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Meg Marker</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Supervisor V Manuel Perez</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Tribal Vice Chair Joseph Mirelez</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**8. DISCUSSION / ACTION**

**A. Presentation: Being prepared for wildfire season**

Riverside County Fire Department Deputy Chief Robert Fish presented the update and presentation via Zoom.

Brief member discussion ensued with Deputy Chief Fish answering questions from the committee.

No vote was taken as this was an informational item.

**B. Update from the California Highway Patrol**

California Highway Patrol Commander David Efferson introduced himself to the Committee as a first-time attendee to the Public Safety Committee meeting. He provided an update on CHP's latest Maximum Enforcement Period (MEP) held in the Coachella Valley over Memorial Day weekend and reported the statistics of the enforcement period. He reports there will be another MEP during the month of July.

Commander Efferson also announced there will be a child safety event with car seat presentation on June 24 at Texas Roadhouse restaurant in Indio.

CHP Sergeant Eric Peña gave an update regarding street racing and side shows. He noted that the CHP received a \$2 million grant during 2023 to address issues regarding sideshows and street racing with education campaigns and special enforcement operations.

Member discussion ensued, with Commander Efferson and Sergeant Peña answering questions from the committee.

No action was taken as this was an informational item only.

**C. Establishing a Vision Zero Program**

Assistant Director of Transportation Mark Lancaster presented the staff report.

Member discussion ensued with Mr. Lancaster answering questions from the committee.

**IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR PRO TEM PEÑA AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GREGORY TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 24-002 TO ESTABLISH A VISION ZERO POLICY AND DIRECT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO DEVELOP A VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 9 AYES, 1 MEMBER ABSTAINING AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT.**

<b>Councilmember John Preckwinkle</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Raymond Gregory</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Frank Figueroa</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Councilmember Roger Nuñez</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
<b>Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Whitman</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Waymond Fermon</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember John Peña</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Mayor Karina Quintanilla</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Grace Garner</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Meg Marker</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Supervisor V Manuel Perez</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Tribal Vice Chair Joseph Mirelez</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**9. INFORMATION – The following item was provided for information only:**

- A. Attendance Record**
- B. CVAG Meeting Calendar for Fiscal Year 2024/25**

**10. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

City of Blythe Chief of Police Garth Dale informed the committee that Blythe Police Department has officially moved over to the region’s PSEC radio system and is the last jurisdiction in Riverside County to make the move. They will now be able to improve communications with other law enforcement agencies.

Jeremy Wittie, General Manager with Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District, introduced himself to the committee as a first time attendee and updated members regarding mosquito season and West Nile Virus detection here in the Coachella Valley.

**11. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting of the **Public Safety Committee** will be held on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, June 24, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260.

The next meeting of the **General Assembly** will be held on Monday, June 24, 2024, at 6 p.m. at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260.

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Fermon adjourned the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Elysia Regalado*, Management Analyst